

REVIEWED BY. *J. Man*

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9/29/80

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REASON(S)

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS

DECLASSIFIED

RELEASABLE

RELEASE DENIED

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

HARRIS LAWRENCE T
77 MONTIVIDEO 4149

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PAGE 01

MONTIV 44149 281812Z

ACTION AAA-14

INFO COT-01 ISO-02 ORA-05 CIAT-02 DODI-02 NSAI-02
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C O M F I D E N T I A L MONTIVIDEO 4149

R.O. 11652: 619

PAGES: 800, OVIP (TODMAN), NY

SUBJ: HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS SINCE TODMAN VISIT

REF: MONTIVIDEO 4129

1. FULL SUBSTANCE OF PUBLIC STATEMENT MADE BY EDUARD TAVARES TO PRESS INCLUDED IN IMMEDIATE REPTEL. SUBSTANCE OF PRESS INTERVIEW, WHICH CONDUCTED PRESENCE OF PARAGUAYAN JOURNAL, WAS THAT TAVARES DID NOT COMPLAIN ABOUT TREATMENT IN JAIL OR MEDICAL ATTENTION OFFERED. WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING IF THIS IS A REFLECT, ON BASIS OF TAVARES' WILLINGNESS TO PRESENT POSITIVE PUBLIC IMAGE OF URUGUAYAN PENAL SYSTEM, TO PRESENT AND DEPORTATION IN NEAR FUTURE.

2. MONTIVIDEO 4149 REPRESENTS SUBSTANCE OF INFORMATION PRESENTED TO COUNCIL OF STATE. THE INFORMATION WAS PRESENTED TO THE COUNCIL OF STATE BY GENERAL GREGORIO ALVAREZ FIRST IN CONFIDENTIAL SESSION THEN MADE PUBLIC BY HIM. THE PLAN CALLS FOR ELECTIONS WITH ONE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE IN 1981 AND FULL INSTITUTIONAL NORMALITY IN 1983. STEPS LEADING TO 1981 ELECTION STILL REMAIN OBSCURE ALTHOUGH THEY DO INCLUDE THE DRAFTING OF A NEW CONSTITUTION AND SOME POLITICAL ACTIVITY TO BE PERMITTED AFTER 1983.

3. THERE WAS NO QUESTION THAT TODMAN VISIT SENSITIZED MANY TO

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PAGE 02

MONTIV 44149 281812Z

THE GOV. IN THE MEDIA AND AMONG GENERAL PUBLIC DO NOT NEED TO COME TO GRIPS WITH THE NEGATIVE IMAGE URUGUAY SUFFERING ON HUMAN RIGHTS GROUND. WE ARE AWARE OF INTERNAL DISCUSSIONS WITHIN GOV AND OF INTEREST AT THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF LEVEL TO CONVINCE AN OPEN DIALOGUE ON THE SUBJECT WITH US. BUT NOTHING SPECIFIC HAS OCCURRED YET IN TERMS OF POSITIVE ACTION OTHER THAN TAVARES' PRESS INTERVIEW NOTED ABOVE. AS POINTED OUT IN REPTEL THE LATEST ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE 1981 ELECTIONS IF ANYTHING REPRESENTS A HALF-STEP BACKWARDS FROM THE MORE GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING ELECTIONS MADE ON AUGUST 9.

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